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HONGKONG, FRIDAY, MARCH 18 1921.

日九初月二酉辛亥歲年十國民華中

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most perfect food for infants, invalids,
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FAST & COMFORTABLE MOTOR BOATS.
FOR HIRE AT ALL HOURS.
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should always be enjoyed in the right spirit
if it is commemorated by a souvenir such as
JEWELLERY & WATCHES
The goods that hold the unchallenged
reputation of being
THE IDEAL GIFT.

J. ULLMANN & CO.
JEWELLERS. Est. 1900.

TO-DAY'S CABLES.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

BONAR LAW RESIGNS.

TORY LEADER NOT WELL.

LONDON, March 17.

In the House of Commons Lloyd George announced that Bonar Law had resigned on grounds of health. This announcement was a "Bombshell." Lloyd George was visibly affected when reading Bonar Law's letter, frequently breaking down. He was hardly able to finish his statement. In the letter Bonar Law said: "The strain of the last few years has pressed most heavily on me. As you know, I had the greatest difficulty in doing my work and am now worn out. My medical advisers have warned me that my physical condition is such that unless I have an immediate and long rest an early and complete breakdown is inevitable. (Murmurs of dismay.) It will always be a pleasure to me to think I have been able to help you in the great work you have done since you became prime minister, and it is necessary that compels me to abandon the hope of assisting you in the difficult task now confronting you."

The Commons cheered sympathetically when Lloyd George broke down. Finishing the letter he added that he hoped a short rest would enable Bonar Law to return to his duties but the medical opinion was that Bonar Law would need a prolonged rest and freedom from worry. Here Lloyd George was unable to master his feelings and flung himself back into his seat with a gesture indicating his inability to continue.

Asquith thereupon rose and almost inaudibly referred to the unexpected and painful announcement. He said all his relations with Bonar Law had never left rancour. Bonar Law's political antagonists entertained the most affectionate memories of him. He hoped for his complete restoration to health and his re-entry into the fighting ranks.

Clynes said the Labourites had received the news with a feeling of deepest loss.

It is understood to-night that the Coalition will be unaffected by Bonar Law's resignation. The Unionists are meeting on Monday to elect his successor. Austin Chamberlain is freely mentioned as his probable successor.

CONFERENCE OF DOMINION PREMIERS.

ARRANGEMENTS.

LONDON, March 17.

The agenda for the conference of dominions premiers is now being drawn up but is unlikely to be completed for some weeks. The British Government is sending out to the dominions papers relative to the questions it desires discussed and is asking the dominions respectively to send in data regarding the subjects they propose to place on the agenda. It is practically certain that the naval, military, and air defence of the empire will form the main theme of discussions, while arrangements for a meeting of the empire constitutional conference will also figure prominently. It is hoped that a further considerable advance will be made in the imperial wireless system. The anticipated report of the Milner commission on wireless will be ready for the conference, enabling the dominions premiers to see how far stations have developed and submit their views.

BIG NEW YORK FIRM SMASHES.

RECEIVERS APPOINTED.

NEW YORK, March 17.

Receivers have been appointed to take over the business of Messrs. Gaston Williams and Wigmore, exporters and importers, whose liabilities are estimated at six million dollars. The assets consist of stock in subsidiary companies all over the world. It is understood the company's financial embarrassment is due to depreciation of its stock holdings, also to heavy losses owing to the Soviet Government repudiating claims for supplies to the imperial and Kerensky governments.

THE QUALITY OF MERCY.

NEW U.S. PRESIDENT AND MR. DEBS.

WASHINGTON, March 17.

President Harding has requested the attorney-general to review the case of the socialist leader Debs, who was imprisoned for obstructing recruiting during the war.

MARINE WAGES.

LIVERPOOL OWNERS PROPOSE REDUCTIONS.

LONDON, March 17.

Liverpool shipowners have submitted to the national maritime board a definite scheme for reduction of wages and the revision of working conditions for all ratings, the decrease ranging from ninety shillings monthly from officers, seamen, and firemen to £5 10s. in the case of stewards.

RUSSIAN REVOLUTION.

REFUGEES REACH FINLAND.

HELSINGFORS, March 18.

The revolutionary committee with eight hundred soldiers have arrived in Finland. It is stated that Kronstadt has surrendered.

THE VERY LATEST.

SCIENTIFIC EXECUTIONS.

RENO, March 17.

The Nevada senate has passed a bill providing for the use of lethal gas for capital punishment.

INDIAN VICEROY ENBARKS.

LONDON, March 17.

Lord Reading has left for India to take up the viceroyalty.

THE DOLLAR.

To-day's closing rate 2/3 7/8
To-day's opening rate 2/3 7/8

EARLIER TELEGRAMS

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

GREAT BRITAIN'S NAVY.

LONDON, March 17th.

A striking announcement regarding the naval armaments question was made by Lord Lee, the First Lord of the Admiralty, at the dinner of the Institute of Naval Architects, where he said that if an invitation came from Washington he would be prepared to put aside all other business in order to help towards an agreement for mutual reduction, which was the most pressing matter in the world's affairs. Lord Lee declared that the difference between the American and the British formula regarding the strength of their respective navies was too slight to be made the subject of controversy. He asserted that if ever war broke out between us and any of the ex-allies, it would be the fault of blind or criminal leading for which statesmen, whether in London, Washington or Tokyo, or any other capital, would be execrated in history, if they failed to avert such a tragedy.

Lord Lee said that the new British Navy Estimates set an example in reduction. "We have taken risks," Lord Lee said, "as regards the relative position of our navy and the navies of other countries. We are prepared to go to the farthest possible limit by mutual agreement, but it was not sufficient merely to talk of 'hands across the sea.' We must, also, have heads across the sea."

Lord Lee said that from long knowledge of America he profoundly believed in "business" talking leading up to a square deal. "We were not engaged," concluded Lord Lee, "in a game of poker or bluff; the cards could be placed on the table."

BRITISH REPARATIONS BILL.

LONDON, March 17th.

The Reparations Bill has passed the Committee stage in the House of Commons.

BERLIN, March 17th.

It is semi-officially denied by the Government that production has been reduced in the Stinnes Thyssen works in the newly occupied districts. No workmen have been dismissed.

TRADE WITH RUSSIA.

LONDON, March 17th.

After the signature of the Anglo-Russian Trade Agreement, Sir Robert Horne addressed a letter to Mr. Krassin giving details of Bolshevik activity against India, and stating that this must immediately be ended, if the good faith of the trade agreement is to be observed.

LONDON, March 17th.

The conclusion of the Anglo-Russian Trade Agreement is in no way hailed with universal satisfaction.

The Daily Herald alone is jubilant, and claims that the agreement is a great Labour triumph.

Other comments range from strong denunciation to cold gratification. A point of immediate concern is whether the gold and other commodities from Russia are attachable.

M. Krassin declares that a test action will be brought in the courts as soon as possible, and if the verdict is in favour of the Soviet Government trade will be opened immediately, but if it is against the Soviet the agreement would become useless, unless the British Government obtains a revision of the Russian constitution.

LONDON, March 17th.

The signature of the Anglo-Russian Trade Agreement was speedily followed by a Moscow wireless message announcing that a contract for a big order had been signed in London for the purchase of 300,000 tons of coal.

WORLD'S CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP.

HAVANA, March 17th.

The first game between Leaker and Capablanca, in the world's chess championship, resulted in a draw, after fifty moves.

PRESIDENT MILLERAND.

PARIS, March 15th.

M. Millerand has concluded his visit to the Lyons Fair, and to the industrial district where the working population gave him the heartiest welcome. The President is to proceed to-morrow on his journey to Valencia and Avignon.—Havas.

NEW SINO-BELGIAN STEAMSHIP LINE.

BRUSSELS, March 17th.

A new Sino-Belgian navigation company has been established by the Belgian Royal Lloyd. It has four steamers under construction. It is intended to run a regular service to Shanghai from Antwerp, Rotterdam and Hamburg.

A FAMILY NECESSITY.

EVERY family should be provided with Chamberlain's Pain Balm at all times. Sprains may be cured in much less time when promptly treated. Lame back, lame shoulder pains in the side and chest and rheumatic pains are some of the diseases for which it is especially valuable. Try this balm and become acquainted with its qualities and you will never wish to be without it. For sale by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

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In order to make room
for New Stock coming
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offering 300 pairs of
Black and Tan Hanan
Boots and Shoes at
below cost.

This week's Price
\$19.50

This offer will positively not be repeated.

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LADIES' & GENTS'
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SMART FOOTWEAR

BOOTS AND SHOES

COMFORTABLE WHEN NEW
STYLISH WHEN OLD

LAMMERT BROS.

AUCTIONEERS, APPRAISERS
AND SURVEYORS.

Public Auctions—

THE Undersigned have received Instructions to sell by Public Auction, on

SATURDAY, March 19, 1921,
commencing at 11 a.m.
at their Sales Rooms, Duddell Street,
(over account of the consignment)
33 Bolts Birkmyres Patent Tarpsaulin
Canvas.
16 Bolts Birkmyres Patent Cloth for
Motor Car Covers.
304 Bolts Flax Canvas No. 1, II & III.
35 Bolts Woodbury Cotton Canvas
Nos. I, II & III.
3 Bolts Woodbury Cotton Duck 5 oz.
Also
A Quantity of Marine, Household
and Household.
On view from Friday, the 18th inst.
Terms:—Cash, on delivery.

LAMMERT BROS.,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, March 15, 1921.

on
MONDAY, March 21, 1921,
commencing at 11 a.m.
at their Sales Rooms, Duddell Street
A Quantity of
Tea and an Assortment of
Provisions.
(More or less slightly damaged
by water).
Terms: Cash on delivery.
LAMMERT BROS.,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, March 15, 1921.

FOR SALE

ONE HORNSBY-ACKROYD OIL
ENGINE—3½ Horse Power, Fuel,
Kerosene. Complete with cooling apparatus
in good condition. May be viewed by
appointment at Gun Club Hill Barracks,
Kowloon. Apply to the undersigned.
LAMMERT BROS.

FOR SALE

MILNER'S SAFES

Apply to
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Happily Growing

A baby grows his food should
grow with him—if he is to be
happy and contented baby that you
want him to be. THE ALLENBURYS'
FOODS are scientifically adapted to
your baby's growing needs. They
contain graduated proportions of the
elements essential to his brain and
body development from birth onwards.

The Allenburys' Foods

MILK FOOD No. 1: From birth to 12 months
MILK FOOD No. 2: From 12 months to 2 years
MILK FOOD No. 3: From 2 years to 5 years
Obtain list of all Chemists,
ALLIEN & HANBURYS Ltd., London

All the most
Beautiful Women useCREME
SIMON

Beauty,
Whiteness,
Preservation,
of the Skin.

Against Chaps
and all Irritations
of the Epidermis
caused by the sun and wind.
Absolutely unrivalled.
Does Not produce Hair.

Of all Chemists, Hairdressers,
Perfumers and Druggists.

INTIMATIONS

YOU CANNOT AFFORD TO
BE WITHOUT THEM.

JUST received a large Consignment
of (1) LACTOGEN the most digestive
food for infants which keeps good in
quality during Hot weather (2) LAC-
TOSE (Milk Sugar) for sweetening the
foods of Infants and Dyspeptics (3)
MILFORD-MORATH FLUID INSECTI-
CIDE the Best Fluid for destroying
Flies, Mosquitoes, Bugs, etc. and all
other Insect Pests in Summer days, and
(4) JOHN CAHILL'S GOLDEN
FLEECES, MAGIO and CINDERELLA
SOAPS for keeping everything clean in
House.

PRICES are Very Moderate. In-
spection and Enquiries are cordially
invited.

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Telephone Nos. 1223.

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Sutton's

Fine Grass Seeds

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Garden Lawns, &c.

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Dealers in Garden Seeds, Postage
Stamps, Toys, Picture Books,
&c., &c.

No. 10, Wyndham Street,
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JAPANESE MAKERS.

Every kind of Footwear.

MADE TO ORDER.



CHERRY & CO.,

PEPPER STREET,
Opposite Hongkong Hotel
Telephone No. 491.
Hongkong, March 20, 1921.

TANG YUK, DENTIST.

Successor to
the late SIEN TING,
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Consultation free.

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"COMMANDER"

Super Size
Virginia Cigarettes"Commander" has many
leading qualities—"Commander" smokers
know what they are—"Commander" must be
smoked to be ap-
preciated.

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SHORT STUDIES.

THE HAPPINESS OF CHINA.

MR. BERTRAND RUSSELL'S
IMPRESSIONS.

Mr. Bertrand Russell has written
the following letter on his experiences
in China, which appears in the London
Nation.

On the Yangtze, 28th October.
Since landing in China we have had
a most curious and interesting time,
spent, so far, entirely among Chinese
students and journalists who are more
or less Europeanized. I have delivered
innumerable lectures—on Einstein,
education and social questions. The
eagerness for knowledge on the part
of students is quite extraordinary.
When one begins to speak, their eyes
have the look of starving men begin-
ning a feast. Everywhere they treat
me with a most embarrassing respect.
The day after I landed in Shanghai
they gave a vast dinner to us, at
which they welcomed me as Confucius
the Second. We had to speak to in-
numerable schools, teachers' confer-
ences, congresses, etc. It is a country
of curious contrasts. Most of Shanghai
is quite European, almost American;
the names of streets, and notices and
advertisements are in English (as well
as in Chinese); the buildings are mag-
nificent offices and banks; every-
thing looks very opulent. But the
side streets are still Chinese. It is
a vast city, about the size of Glas-
gow.

One of the leading Chinese news-
papers invited us to lunch, in a modern
building, completed in 1917, with all
the latest plant (except linotype,
which can't be used for Chinese
characters). The editorial staff gave
us a Chinese meal at the top of the
house, with Chinese wine made of
rice, and innumerable dishes which
we ate with chop-sticks. When we
had finished eating they remarked
that one of their number was
fond of old Chinese music, and would
like to play to us. So he produced
an instrument with seven strings,
made by himself on the ancient model,
out of black wood 2,000 years old,
which he had taken from a temple.
The instrument is played with the
fingers, like a guitar, but is laid flat on
the table, not held in the hand.
They assured us that the music he
played was 4,000 years old, but that
(I imagine) must be an overstate-
ment. In any case, it was exquisite-
ly beautiful, very delicate, easier for a
European ear than more recent music
(of which I have heard a good deal).
When the music was over they be-
came again a staff of bustling jour-
nalists.

From Shanghai our Chinese friends
took us for three nights to Hangchow
on the Western Lake, said to be the

most beautiful scenery in China. This
was merely holiday. The Western
Lake is not large—about the size of
Grasmere—it is surrounded by wood-
ed hills, on which there are innum-
erable pagodas and temples. It has
been beautified by poets and emperors
for thousands of years. (Apparently
poets, in ancient China, were as
financiers in modern Europe). We
spent one day in the hills—a twelve-
hour expedition in Sedan chairs—and
the next in seeing country houses,
monasteries, &c., on islands in the
lake. Chinese religion is curiously
cheerful. When one arrives at a tem-
ple, they give one a cigarette and a
cup of delicately fragrant tea. Then
they show one round. Buddhism,
which one thinks of as ascetic, is here
quite gay. The saints have fat
stomachs, and are depicted as people
who thoroughly enjoy life. No one
seems to believe the religion, not even
the priests. Nevertheless, one sees
many rich new temples. The country
houses are equally hospitable—one is
shown round and given tea. They
are just like Chinese pictures—with
many arbors where one can sit, with
everything made for beauty and no-
thing for comfort—except in the
grandest rooms, where there will be a
little hideous European furniture.

The most delicious place we saw on
the Western Lake was a retreat for
scholars, built about 800 years ago,
on the lake. Scholars certainly had
a pleasant life in old China.
Apart from the influence of Euro-
peans, China makes the impression of
what Europe would have become if
the eighteenth century had gone on
till now without industrialism or the
French Revolution. People seem to
be rational hedonists, knowing very
well how to obtain happiness, ex-
quisite through intense cultivation
of their artistic sensibilities, differing
from Europeans through the fact that
they prefer enjoyment to power.
People laugh a great deal in all classes,
even the lowest.

The Chinese cannot pronounce my
name, or write it in their characters.
They call me "Luo-Su," which is the
nearest they can manage. This they
can both pronounce and print.

From Hangchow we went back to
Shanghai, thence by rail to Nanking,
an almost deserted city. The wall is
twenty-three miles in circumference,
but most of what it encloses is coun-
try. The city was destroyed at the
end of the Taiping rebellion, and
again injured in the Revolution of
1911. But it is an active educational
centre, eager for news of Einstein and
Bolshevism.

From Nanking we went up the
Yangtze to Hankow—about three
days journey, through very lovely
scenery—thence by train to Cheng-
sha, the capital of Hunan, where a
great educational conference was tak-

SING SING PRISON.

POPULAR INSTITUTION.

NO MORE "FREE HOTEL LIFE."
Life in Sing Sing, New York State's
"home for convicts," has become so
attractive that prisoners have been
known to plead guilty to felony in-
stead of misdemeanour in order to
obtain admission, with the result that
the prison, situated on the beautiful
banks of the Hudson River, is now
overcrowded. In an effort to make
this establishment conform more to
the average conception of a prison
rather than an hotel whose guests are
cared for free of charge, the superin-
tendent has now imposed what he
considers stringent rules. Under the
new regulations convicts from now on
will be prohibited from wearing jewell-
ery, courting women, dining sumptu-
ously, writing love-letters, or dress-
ing in stylish mode. The clothing of
all inmates henceforth must be uni-
form, which means that silk hosiery
or shirts, fancy ties, and white collars
will not be permitted, although pris-
oners may indulge in private socks,
underwear, and flannel shirts of a
quiet colour.

Courting while a guest of the
State will no longer be sanctioned
under the new rule, which denies pris-
oners the privilege of visits from
females except those of his immedi-
ate family. "Promiscuous letter writ-
ing" will be discouraged. Inmates
will not be permitted to order meals
from outside the prison; and hence-
forth must rely on the prison fare for
sustenance.

There are about three
hundred Europeans in Cheng-sha, but
Europeanisation has not gone at all
far. The town is just like a medieval
town—narrow streets, every house a
shop with a gay sign hung out, no
traffic possible except Sedan chairs
and a few rickshaws. The Europeans
have a few factories, a few banks, a
few missions, and a hospital—the
whole gamut of damaging and repair-
ing body and soul by Western meth-
ods. The governor of Hunan is the
most virtuous of all the governors
of Chinese provinces, and entertained
us last night at a magnificent banquet.
Professor and Mrs. Dewey were pre-
sent; it was the first time I had met
them. The governor cannot talk any
European language, so, though I sat
next him, I could only exchange com-
pliments through an interpreter; but
I got a good impression of him; he is
certainly very anxious to promote
education, which seems the most
crying need in China. Without it it
is hard to see how better government
can be introduced. It must be said
that bad government seems somewhat
less disastrous in China than it would
be in a European nation; but this is,
perhaps, a superficial impression
which time may correct.

NOTICES.

G. FALCONER & CO., LTD.

WATCHMAKERS & JEWELLERS.

Hotel Mansions.

Agents for:—ADMIRALTY CHARTS,
ROSS'S BINOCULARS and TELESCOPES,
KELVIN'S NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS,
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ENGLISH SILVERWARE, direct from Manufacturers,
High Class English Jewellery.

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AND THE

HONGKONG HOTEL GARAGE.

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THE PEAK HOTEL.

1,500 Feet above Sea Level.
15 Minutes from Landing Stage.
Under the Management of—
MRS. BLAIR.

PALACE HOTEL KOWLOON

Recently renovated and furnished, electric light and fans throughout
and entirely under new management. Cuisine under the personal supervision
of the proprietor, Bas and Edward Booms. Terms moderate. Special terms to
families on application to

Telephone K. 3. Telegraphic Address: "PALACE."

J. H. OXBERRY, Proprietor.

HOTEL "ASIA"

WEST BUND, CANTON.

Rooms en Suite & with private Baths.
Roof Garden, Hairdressing Saloon, etc.

Excellent Cuisine. Moderate Rates.

Leading Hotel in South China.

Special attention given to Tourists.

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THOS. G. HUTCHINGS.

KING EDWARD HOTEL

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The China Mail.

TELETYPE, JUSTICE, PUBLIC SERVICE.
HONGKONG, FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 1921.

OUR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The report of the general committee of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce, to be presented to members on the 29th of this month, is already printed. It makes a book of 259 pages, and although there is no "plot," there is continuity of interest. As a skeleton of Hongkong's business concerns throughout a twelve-month, it is well articulated, and produces, despite its variety of themes, a monomorphous effect upon the mind. It consists entirely of correspondence, but the correspondence of these various firms and men betrays a coherent purpose, the facilitation and furtherance of British trade. The reader may have to consult a dictionary to ascertain what quassia is, he may be misty as to the nature of a bill of lading, and absolutely ignorant concerning short reeled cotton cases, but he can see quite plainly an earnest and a related purpose in any of these arguments about these differing things. It breeds a new respect for the brains that do understand these arcane matters. These money-grubbers (as he may have called them, in his superior way) now figure as devoted coral insects; building the reef of empire, with something like the same unconsciousness and the same achievement. They begin (appendix A) with an interest in education, they pass on to touch as they pass subjects like trade with Germany, the state of Vancouver Harbour, U.K. import restrictions, lace, camphor analyses, and so on. Incidentally, the unbusiness reader perceives the element of human

this answer evokes. The idea of English being recommended as an "auxiliary" language for Englishmen amuses us, and we determine to treasure it against the time when we are helping to entertain the delegation of business men from the Vancouver Board of Trade, who, we conclude, are coming on the "Empress of Russia" next May. Then, reading on, we discover that their visit is history, that all these things refer to a year that has gone. Whereupon, having filled about as much space as is required, we chuck the book to one side, and take up another. Seriously, there ought to be a chapter about the Chamber's programme and outlook for the coming year. This, no doubt, we will get from the meeting on the 29th. Let us wait for that.

CHINESE PRINTERS STRIKE.

DEMAND FOR 8-HOUR DAY.

Work in all the Chinese printing shops in Hongkong came to a standstill this morning when the employees went on strike to enforce their demand for an 8-hour day instead of the 11-hour day hitherto worked. After the men had been out two hours twenty shops agreed to give an 8-hour day, a whole day off on Sunday, and overtime at double rates. Over 40 shops, however, still refuse to meet the demands of their employees.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

Returning from Hongkong to H.M.S. "Carlisle," at Kowloon Docks last night, a pantry boy was attacked by two men who suddenly appeared at a dark spot in Yaumati and robbed him of \$50 in notes.

The total output of the Kailan Mining Administration's mines for the week ending March 5, 1921, amounted to 78,532 tons, and the sales during the period, to 83,321 tons.

It is understood that the Astor House Hotel property, has been sold, for, it is stated, \$480,000, to Chinese, who intend to rebuild. However, the hotel lease has a few years still to run.

The Kobe Steel Works, which is under the management of Messrs Suzuki & Co., has announced some further retrenchment, and dismissed 110 hands out of 180 employed in the boiler department. The men discharged were given consolation allowances representing from 25 days' to 85 days' pay, and in some cases travelling expenses were also given. There was no disorderly conduct on the part of the dismissed men.

For the convenience of those attending the forthcoming tournament of the Hongkong Boxing Association who may wish to leave before the end, it has been decided by the management to hold the main event—the Championship contest between "Sky" Kerrison and Seaman Collings—immediately after the interval, instead of at the end of the tournament as has hitherto been the custom. This arrangement will no doubt be appreciated by many.

The court of first instance in Manila was "stumped" recently when it had to decide what penalty to give a murderer who had already been sentenced to life imprisonment for another offence. As the death penalty in the Philippines is limited, the court was at a loss when the prisoner, who killed a fellow convict with a pickaxe, was brought before it. Eventually the judge hit on the happy solution of giving him two life sentences. The prisoner says he will "take his chances" on the second one.

It has been discovered that there is a wireless phenomenon covering a large area round about Mincio and wireless signals seem to die away at this point. Mr. M. J. Gollybly, the officer-in-charge of the Colombo Wireless Station, has circulated shipper's so as to obtain as much information as possible from ships, which experienced the effects of the blank area. About six ships, including the "Ormonde," have observed the phenomenon. Mr. Gollybly is investigating the matter, but is not in a position to make a definite statement.

A new law reserving to struggling artists and authors a percentage of what their work may fetch at subsequent public sales has been drafted, by M. Destree, the Socialist Minister of Arts and Sciences in the Belgian Government, says the *Daily Mail*. If M. Destree's idea had been carried out earlier the closing days of many famous artists might have been less clouded with care. Several of Constable's greatest pictures, "The White Horse" for one—sold for no more than 100 guineas, and he was constantly "hard up." Morand's plight was even worse. Jean Francois Millet, who died a poor man, did not live to see his "Angelus" sell for £32,000.

COMPANY MEETING.

CHINA SUGAR REFINING CO., LTD.

A RECORD YEAR.

The 43rd annual general meeting of the China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd., was held at the offices of the general agents, Messrs. Jardine Matheson and Co., Ltd., at 11 a.m. this morning. The Hon. Mr. Johnstone presided and there were present:—Sir Paul Chater, Mr. A. O. Lang, Mr. F. Maitland, and Mr. H. P. White (Consulting Committee) and G. B. C. Hornill, Secretary, G. M. Shaw Manager; Sir Robert Ho Tung, Messrs. Ho Kwong, U. Rungjahn, Ho Shai Kit, Hon. Mr. Ho Fook, Lo Cheung-shin, Messrs. H. E. Lo, O. Kitchell, Ho Leung, E. Abraham, Chao Pao-ien, P. Tester, W. J. Carroll, N. V. A. Croucher, F. M. P. de Graça, Ho Ki Lo, Cheung Ip, S. E. de Luz, G. C. Moon, J. M. da Rocha, P. M. N. da Silva and Yuen Hang Kin.

The Secretary having read the notice calling the meeting, the Chairman said:—

The Report and Accounts with the Auditors Certificate attached having been in your hands for the past week or so, I will with your permission take them as read.

The year under review has been an unusually difficult one in which it has been possible to make or lose millions inside of a week, and it is with considerable pleasure—coupled with relief—that your General Agents and Consulting Committee find themselves in the position to present to you such a satisfactory report, and to recommend the payment of a final dividend of 65¢ per share, which, with the Interim Dividend of 15¢ paid in August last, makes a return of 80¢ per share to shareholders for the past year.

Last year's working easily constitutes a record in the history of the Company, and this—under the extraordinary circumstances we had to contend with during 1920—gives all the more reason for congratulation.

It will be remembered that towards the middle of the year under review the discovery that America was "Short" forced prices up to unheard of levels. Raw sugar in Java rising from 40 to 75 Guilders per picul between April and May, thereafter when America had reversed her position, that is to say gone "long," the bubble burst and prices fell away equally rapidly, the actual difference between the highest and lowest prices touched during the year being approximately 80 Guilders per picul.

Fortunately for us judicious buying at the end of 1919 for delivery 1920, coupled with heavy purchases quite early in the year 1920, itself enabled the Refinery to carry on without placing further orders of Raw sugar at inflated prices and to take full advantage of the demand for the finished product, which was experienced throughout the year.

Shareholders in this Company hardly need to be reminded of the risks attendant on Sugar Refining as a business, because they have already had painful experience thereof in years when we could not pay a dividend commensurate with the value of their Shares, and I trust therefore that you will assist us to build up the reserves of the Company out of a good year, and thus protect yourselves as far as possible against the lean ones which are in due course bound to follow.

To briefly comment upon the proposed allocation of the profits, we think it advisable to increase the "Sugar Fluctuation a/c" to \$1,200,000—to offset possible fluctuations in the future.

The allocation of a further three lakhs to "Equalization of Dividend Fund" will enable us at the worst to pay a 10% dividend on our Shares for 3 years to come.

As you are aware, we have an Employees Provident Fund in connection with the Staff, and we ask you to agree to putting aside \$100,000—to invest against calls on this Fund in the future.

We are building a block of 12 Flats at East Point on our own property to house our technical Staff and we think this is a good time to provide for the cost of the building, viz \$140,000.

The amount of \$30,960—which we propose to pay as Bonus to Staff is larger than hitherto but this is brought about by the increased salaries paid during the year and we feel sure that you will agree to the additional grant in view of the results obtained.

It is also proposed to write down Patent Rights by \$50,000, as these Rights benefit us over a limited period of years and the proposal thus appears advisable.

There is only one other item in the accounts to which I think reference need be made. You will notice that the amount standing at credit of "Exchange Fluctuation a/c" is increased by \$140,876.52. This amount represents the book profit on Guilders on deposit in Java which are taken into the accounts at the rate ruling on the 31st December. The amount will be credited to Raw Sugar shipments as soon as the Guilders concerned are used to finance purchases made for shipment this year. The amount, actually standing at the credit of this Reserve is \$100,000—as shown in the last accounts.

WRONGFUL ARREST.

APOLOGY DUE TO RICHHA COOLIE.

Great was the astonishment and dismay of a luckless richha coolie wandering past the City Hall shortly before the witching hour last night when his empty vehicle chanced to disturb the delicate poise of a fire hydrant kept in readiness during the cabaret dance and release a geyser of water which shot high into the air, overturning his vehicle and drenching his scanty habiliments. Scarcely had he recovered his surprise, than to his further consternation, he was seized by a myrmidon of the law and marched to the police station. What ingenious regulation was eventually discovered to justify his arrest is not known, but it was fully half an hour before the powerful jet foaming higher than the City Hall itself was finally stopped by a man who boldly marched in where others feared to tread and literally leant against the stream the while he fumbled with the hydrant. As an imitation of an artesian well the fountain was thrilling while it lasted. But the waste was shocking.

I now come to the prospects for 1921, and it gives much pleasure to be able to tell you that—always provided some unlooked for catastrophe does not take place—we appear to be fairly safe.

A considerable portion of our requirements of Raw Sugar for the present year have been already bought at cheap prices and sales so far made have been satisfactory.

There does not appear to be any outstanding factor likely to cause violent fluctuation in prices and any fluctuation that may come should be in our favour.

The Chairman—I now propose that the Report and Accounts as presented be adopted and that the balance at credit of Profit and Loss account be distributed as follows:—

(1) The payment of a final dividend of 65¢ per share absorbing \$1,300,000.

(2) Place to Sugar Fluctuation account \$700,000.

(3) Place to Equalization of Dividend Fund \$300,000.

(4) Place to Employees Provident Fund \$100,000.

(5) Place to Building Reserve \$140,000.

(6) Writeoff Patent Rights \$50,000.

(7) Pay to the Staff as Bonus \$30,960.

(8) Carry forward to the New Account \$75,781.11.

Mr. U. Rungjahn said: Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I have the utmost pleasure in rising to second the adoption of the report and accounts. I shall take this opportunity heartily to congratulate shareholders on the fact that the year under review is a record one. While three years ago the Company had three lakhs in reserve now it has the whole capital less one lakh. The sugar fluctuation account will now stand at \$1,200,000, a wonderful figure, and bearing in mind the dangers of the business a very wise provision. I am glad to note, and I am sure all shareholders will approve of the staff bonus \$30,960, a well deserved tribute to the work performed by the staff. The provision of \$100,000 towards the employees' provident fund is a very prudent step as it will provide for the Company's old employees on their retirement. In conclusion gentlemen, I wish to congratulate the general agents, the committee, and the staff for the remarkable results they have achieved, results which merit the conveyance to them of our very sincere thanks. (Applause.) With these few remarks I beg to second the adoption of the report and accounts as proposed by the Chairman.

The Chairman: If there are no remarks, while thanking Mr. Rungjahn for the flattering remarks he has made about ourselves and the consulting committee, I shall put the motion to the meeting. Will those in favour kindly vote in the usual manner? Against? Carried unanimously.

The Chairman: The next business before the meeting is the election of Auditors for the current year. In this connection I would remark that Messrs H. Percy Smith and A. R. Lowe who offer themselves for re-election have requested that their annual remuneration be increased from \$500 to \$750 each per annum. As this request appears to me to be a reasonable one, I trust you will agree to the proposal which will now be put before you.

Mr. N. V. A. Croucher: I beg to propose that Messrs H. Percy Smith, F. C. A. and A. R. Lowe, F. C. A. be re-appointed auditors of the Company for the ensuing year at a remuneration of \$750 each.

Mr. Ho Leung: I have pleasure in seconding the proposal.

Carried unanimously.

The Chairman: This concludes the business before the meeting. I thank you gentlemen, for your attendance. Dividend warrants may be obtained on application.

EARL HAIG'S FUND.

MRS. E. WOODS' CABARET DANCE.

A BRILLIANT FUNCTION.

The City Hall was the scene of a brilliant function last night when the cabaret dance organised by Mrs. Harry Woods and her twin daughters, Misses Aileen and Doris, in aid of Earl Haig's fund for ex-Service men, met with a success as splendid as it was deserving. Thanks to the unremitting zeal and energy of its capable organisers and the assistance of the local residents and firms whose generosity should help greatly to keep expenses to the bare minimum, a substantial contribution should be made to a fund so manifestly worthy of the widest support. The knowledge of this added not a little last night to the keen enjoyment of the dance itself.

The City Hall was a scene of great animation, the simple but tasteful decorations of ferns, plants, and flags, artistically arranged in the dancing rooms and corridors alike, forming a pretty contrast with the dresses of the ladies and uniforms of the naval and military guests present. The St. George's and St. Andrew's Halls were devoted to the dancing and the Chamber of Commerce Room to the refreshment tables, while the balconies as usual were used for sitting out. There was also a reception room and a bar.

Among the large number present—between four and five hundred, the majority of whom were dancing—were many prominent local residents, including H. E. the Governor, Sir Reginald Stubbs, and the General Officer Commanding, H. E. Sir G. M. Kirkpatrick, and the Misses Kirkpatrick, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Gompertz, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Pollock, Mrs. Holyoak, Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe, C.S.E., Mr. P. F. G. Wodehouse, C.I.E., D.S.P., and Mr. Burlington, A.S.P.

Not the least enjoyable portion of the programme was the musical section, in which the prominent part taken by Mrs. Woods herself was characteristically good. Mr. Sims rendered invaluable assistance to Mrs. Woods in the musical department. By the courtesy of Mr. J. H. Taggart, the General Manager, the Hongkong Hotel Orchestra was in attendance. The Chickering Grand Piano used by Mrs. Woods was kindly lent by Messrs. Anderson and Company. Messrs. D. Logan and Harriman acted as Masters of Ceremonies. The dance programme was as follows:—

1.—One Step.
2.—Fox Trot.
3.—Waltz.
4.—Fox Trot.
Songs—Misses Aileen and Doris Woods.
5.—Fox Trot.
6.—Waltz—"Dear old Pal of Mine."
7.—One Step.
8.—Fox Trot.
Patriotic Song—"England"
Paul Rubens.

9.—One step—"Swanee."
10.—Waltz.
11.—Fox Trot—"Dance O-Mania."
12.—Fox Trot.
13.—Waltz.
14.—Fox Trot.
15.—Fox Trot—"Mammy's Arms."
16.—One Step.
Extra.
Sung by the Misses Woods.

One of the most enjoyable features of the evening was the singing of the Misses Woods, accompanied at the piano by Mrs. Woods, both in the special intervals reserved in the earlier part of the programme and later during the dancing. Charming interpretations, greatly enhanced by the grace of the singers, who also executed some extremely graceful dances, were given to such popular songs as "Your eyes have told me so," and "In the Spring a young man's thoughts lightly turn to love." For these enjoyable contributions the singers were warmly applauded and had performed to submit encores in each instance. Later in the evening a novelty which scored great success when presented by them in Shanghai and Japan was introduced by the Misses Woods who sang while the dances were in progress the waltz "Dear old pal of mine," the one step "Swanee," and the fox trots "Dance O-Mania," and "Mammy's Arms." For these also the singers received very cordial expressions of appreciation. Equally enjoyable was "Rose of Washington Square" played by Mrs. Woods at the piano, and Paul Rubens' famous patriotic song "England," the chorus of which, as follows, was sung with great enthusiasm by all present:—

England to dream of, England to sigh for,
England to live for, to do for, to die for.
Best of all lands under heaven above,
England to love in, and England to love.

Mrs. Woods, who played with her customary ability, was also warmly applauded and had to give more than one encore.

A fitting tribute to Mrs. Woods and her daughters, whose splendid work all the more striking in that it was performed without the aid of a committee, achieved such notable results, was paid at the conclusion of the dance when all present gave three very hearty cheers and they were presented with a wealth of flowers in bouquets and baskets.

DISHONEST MESSENGER.

THEFT OF \$1,000.

STOLEN PROPERTY RECOVERED.

Before Magistrate Lindsay yesterday afternoon, a Chinese gatekeeper employed at the China Sugar Refinery at Wanchai, was charged with having received, knowing the same to be stolen, the sum of \$1,000, the property of Messrs Getz Brothers.

He pleaded "not guilty." Outlining the case for the prosecution, Mr. M. K. Lo said that some time ago the comptroller of Messrs. Getz Bros., absconded with a large sum of money and the firm had to engage a temporary staff; one of them was a coolie, the son of the defendant. On February 3, Mr. R. A. May, travelling superintendent of the Company, in the presence of Mr. H. O. Odell, the local manager, handed to the clerk, to be paid into the Bank of East Asia, \$4,500 in \$500 dollar notes, a cheque, and \$28.40 in smaller money. Instead of taking the money himself, the clerk gave it to one of the coolies—the defendant's son—to take to the Bank. The latter was never seen again and the money had not been credited to the firm's account. An hour later, on the same day, the defendant and his son were seen together at the door of their house in East Point. Evidence would also be called to show that the defendant asked a friend to introduce him to a money changer who could bank some money for him. The defendant handed to the money-changer two \$500 notes, and Mr. Lo suggested that the man's possession of such a sum on the very day that his son disappeared with notes of that denomination, though only circumstantial evidence, was, to say the least, suspicious.

After evidence had been called, Mr. Lo said he did not press for a heavy penalty, as the prosecution felt that the defendant was under the influence of his son.

The Magistrate sentenced the defendant to four week's imprisonment.

THE LENTEN MISSION.

WEEKEND SPECIAL SERVICES.

The Lenten Mission being conducted at the Roman Catholic Cathedral is still going strong by the Rev. Father Lynch. Every evening the building is crowded. Yesterday, St. Patrick's Day proved no exception, many Kowloon people attending. The number from the Peninsula is such that, as the Rev. Father mentioned, one of the boats which used to be known as the cinema boat is now called the mission boat. The celebrations of St. Joseph's Day in which Bishop Pozzoni officiated, at which Father Lynch preached the panegyric of St. Patrick. To-night special exercises will be made in honour of our Lady of the Seven Dolores. The Way of the Cross will be gone through and at each station the missionary will give a sermonette on the particular passion meditated upon at the station. Father Lynch will reproduce what he witnessed in Jerusalem on a Good Friday in Turkish times when over 1000 people made the Stations of the Cross through the streets of the Holy City. Incidentally he will give a description of the places hallowed by the footprints of the Saviour. Saturday is St. Joseph's Day and Sunday Palm Sunday.

A noteworthy innovation in the arrangement of the orchestra's stand was made by Mrs. Woods who had the pot plants removed and the stage raised almost to the level of the balustrade with the result that the orchestra could be heard to the best advantage.

So reluctant was the merry throng to disband that the extra Peak tram which had been scheduled to leave at 1 a.m. did not make the final trip until 2.10 a.m.

In addition to the credit due to Mrs. Woods and the Misses Woods and those already mentioned for the outstanding success of the occasion, mention should also be made of the Naval Authorities who supplied the flags, the Hongkong Electric Company who supplied current free, the Hongkong Hotel Company who gave the services of a small army, under the supervision of Mr. N. White, for the refreshment and bar rooms, the Forestry Department who supplied the many beautiful plants, and Messrs. Donnelly and White, Calbeck-Macgregor, Gande Price, Lane Crawford, the Dairy Farm Co., Wiseman Ltd., Alexandra Cafe, Watson and Co., Humphreys and Co., Komor and Komor, who all made generous contributions of refreshments and liquors, furnishings, etc., also of those who gave individual donations of money, cakes, work, etc. With the programmes given by Messrs. Kelly and Walsh the Misses Woods realised the splendid sum of over \$300 at the beginning of the dance. Thanks are also due to Staff Sergeant Gillard, G.S.M., Westlake and their helpers at the door and cloak room.

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"KELLY SPRINGFIELD"

"LEE."

METER OF MANKIND.

AN INFERNAL MACHINE.

HUMAN EMOTIONS RECORDED.

Tennyson was wont to express with vehemence his objection to "being ripped up like a pig." The method of revelation which he feared was biographical. But the science of publicity has made much progress since his time, and we now hear of a process of exploring the secrets of our souls compared with which the indiscretions of friends, correspondents, and self-elected biographers are (to quote Tennyson himself) "as moonlight unto sunlight and as water unto wine." Dr. AUGUSTUS WALLER, director of the physiological laboratory of the University of London, has been making a public demonstration of "an instrument which records human emotions." This infernal machine seems, and we can well believe it, to have impressed his audience profoundly. In a preliminary explanation, Dr. Waller laid down that in ordinary folk the "emotive response" is found in the palm of the hand and the sole of the foot. That great truth will accept without any scientific evidence. Impudent ears have been boxed and offending bodies kicked for many a long year. But the bearings of the observation lie in the application of it. Dr. WALLER attached a hand of a member of his audience to a galvanometer, and showed, by means of a spot of light on a screen, a record of the victim's emotions. Such is the profundity of modern science, so delicate are modern scientific methods, that, with the galvanometer and the screen and the spot of light, it is now proved that running a pin into a man or burning him with a match produces an "emotive response." Again, we have no difficulty in taking Dr. WALLER's word for it. What we should like to know is whether the manipulation of a spot of light on a screen is found as soothing a relief to the feelings as the more ordinary form of "emotive response" to a burning of the fingers. We are, however, assured that it becomes quite an absorbing passion to sit quietly in an arm-chair and watch the response of the instrument to one's thought and temper. Such are the simple joys of the scientific mind. It may be doubted whether the rest of us are sufficiently intellectual to be satisfied therewith. To sit in an easy chair attached to a galvanometer seems to us a pastime hardly likely to supersede golf. It must needs be a solitary amusement. Whatever pleasure may be derived from contemplating a visible record of the state of our souls, it is not a pleasure we should choose to share. Even to Dr. WALLER we would rather not confide the emotions which are roused in us by the prospect of being harnessed to his invention. But we derive some relief from the thought that at present it has its limitations. It measures quantity, not quality. Our feelings at burning our finger are to the meter of emotions just the same as our feelings at contemplating an

DIVORCE PROBLEMS.

AN AMERICAN REMEDY.

FAMILY COURTS SUGGESTED.

Recent proceedings in the Divorce Court must have caused some uneasiness amongst those who hope to obtain relief from it. The innocent and the ill-used, in particular, must feel that litigation is more than ever distasteful now that they are made familiar with the possibility that after all the ordeal of publicity has been endured a jury may condemn them to face it again. The suggestion of a more excellent way comes from Chicago. Mr. Justice BROTHERS, of that city is retiring from the Bench because his health has broken down under the stress of judicial business, most of it, we infer, composed of matrimonial disputes. He is convinced that there is one remedy, and but one, for a state of things which imperils not only the health of the judiciary but the welfare of his country. His prescription is for "each family to form an arbitration court before which husbands and wives can bring their matrimonial troubles." The telegrams lay stress upon the novelty of this proposal. It is, in fact, only new to us because of its extreme antiquity. Primitive society is full of the jurisdiction of the family. A very little acquaintance with savages would have informed the surprised commentators that, whatever else may be said against Mr. Justice BROTHERS, he is no innovator. Further studies in the social life of humanity would have brought to light the fact that family councils are also found in civilised societies. Many of the divorce cases which have come before Mr. Justice BROTHERS must have been previously tried by members of the family. Many potential divorce cases which might have come before him were, we have no doubt, settled by the sage influence of family arbiters. But it is necessary to add that some, and perhaps his most difficult, cases were in all probability embittered and complicated by family interference. The jurisdiction of the elder statesmen and women of a family is, in fact, already established, but its validity and its usefulness must always be limited by the character of the people concerned. If the world were made up of reasonable and good-tempered people it is no doubt true that we could arrange all our affairs without the assistance of Mr. Justice BROTHERS. But while less agreeable qualities are to be found in human nature it will remain necessary to call upon judges who can give their decisions the sanction of force. We do not know whether he proposes to invest a family court with that. There can be little doubt that the innocent and the culpable in his divorce cases would alike regard such a prospect with horror. What man could endure the compulsion of a mother-in-law?

income-tax demand. So the spiritual tragedies of mankind still elude the grasp of science.—Daily Telegraph.

FLOOR OF THE SEA.

CORAL BUILT TROPICS.

SUBLIME SPECTACLE DESCRIBED.

To the marvels of the coral built tropics and the mysteries of unknown Papua Captain Frank Hurley, the famous Antarctic photographer, has gone for new copy and studies. On the sea, beneath the sea, on the earth, and above the earth, he will be busy for some months. His pen and camera will be employed on behalf of The New Sydney, and from Thursday Island he sent the following article:

I am seated on a boulder by the summit of a green hill looking down on to a conglomeration of rusty tin roofs and rows of tree tops that mark streets, and out over a placid expanse of blue-green sea. The sun glares down on my shadeless visage, and I envy those aboard the three score pearling luggers that ride in the cool breeze off shore. A thin strip of beach, fringed with palms, runs off to the jetty where the Talyuan is discharging. Prince of Wales Island lies over to the right and Horns Island just across the water. The tide is swirling in, and rips and races, marking shallows and channels, changing blue-green to muddy tints. It is all delightful—a media between Austral and tropic scenery, quite unlike an Australian port in all but the dwellings.

Climbing down from the hill, one can race through the barbed trip wires—there scurrying emaciated goat herds, and into the "City of Thursday Island." A couple of hundred paces more and you are into Main-street, avenue with coconut palms and mangoes.

The man who invented corrugated iron ought to be galvanised, for no one has done more to debase Australian architecture and to add to our domestic discomfort. On either side, rows of typical Australian galvanised-walled, corrugated-roofed dwellings—"colonial ovens"—slowly cook the inhabitants with the sun's fire.

The inhabitants seem gathered from the cardinal points of the compass, but the aliens from the north appear to have been attracted to Thursday Island as flings to a lodestone; in fact, one wonders whether this is Chinatown or a Japanese village. The shops of the whites can be counted on the fingers of one hand. The shops and houses of the Asiatics number on the entire fingers of the white community.

A HUMAN MENAGERIE.

There is also a considerable sprinkling of natives from the Torres Straits Islands, and a heavy downpour of unclassifiable breeds, from pale-faced aboriginals to almond-eyed Malays, octoroons, and baboons. White Australia! Why this is a human menagerie!

Thursday Island is the litchkey to the front door of North Australia. But as it lies almost beyond the horizon, only the Income Tax Department seems aware of its existence! Even this department, with its meticulous spy-glasses, has lost its range here. The Japanese who skipper the majority of luggers engaged in pearling and beche-de-mer fisheries earn up to £200 annually. They exist on "the half of a coconut." Anything beyond these delicacies is purchased from the Jap shops. The balance of earnings is sent to Japan, free from all income tax. These men earn their livelihood in Australian waters, but by the interpretation of an absurd clause, the department has not the temerity to exact these obligations.

Anchored amongst the pearling luggers off shore were the two missionary vessels "Herald" and "Oituli," skippered by the Revs. John Done and W. E. Macfarlane. The latter was returning with his family to Darney Island. In quest of pictures and adventure I signed on as a passenger in the "Herald." Our crew, selected from the natives of Torres Straits, were a fine, hefty lot of fellows, and those who did not reach an inch over 6ft. made up for it in girth. At early morn the two vessels set sail for a hundred-mile race to Darney, the "Herald" bearing an hour's handicap. With a fresh breeze and a cloudy sky we reeled a merry eight knots. Navigation in these waters is extremely intricate, and depends considerably on one's local experience. I was amazed at the remarkable skill and science with which "the boy" handled our craft, working tiller and sails to every puff, veer, and vantage.

Through calm seas, flecked with "white-tops," down long streets of light blue calm, with green streaked shallows and reefs on either side, by hunchbacked islets, and sandy spits topped with palms and mangrove—through an ocean of mystery and wonder, with belling sails and sport-

ing bows, we decided to press on through the night. The sun dipped into the sea behind us, leaving our wake with a trail of gold and flame—then night came on—stars, bright and lustrous, gleaming like a million lamps, and Venus, queen of the heavens, throwing her silver sceptre across the sea.

LIKE AN INVERTED SKY.

At 9 p.m. we came up with the Oituli—a formless silhouette riding through the night. Then over those starlit waters went forth a cheer—a native "Oituli, ahoy!"—the strangest I have ever heard; and so, on we pressed alone, with phosphorescent wavelets rippling from our bows, and down in the depths scintillating, myriads and specks, gliding like a star-strewn sky inverted.

Capricious is the weather in these latitudes, for a great cloud bank swept down, with driving rain squalls, "observing" all distant observation. Owing to the innumerable and sporadic nature of the reefs, it was impossible to maintain anything like a true compass course. The midnight watch was just being changed when a horrible grinding jar threw us on to the deck. Up rose the vessel's bow, and it needed no further investigation to convince us that we had driven on to a reef. Mr. Done's presence of mind saved us from being dismasted. A few sharp orders to the crew, and down rattled the sails, and anchors were run out fore and aft.

Every endeavour was made to keel the ship off, but the coral gripped our copper like a rasp, and, with falling tide, we lay helplessly buffeting on the reef.

Throughout the night the seas battered the vessel on the sharp coral, so that we stood by the lifeboat, expecting the sides to be staved through momentarily. Sunrise saw our stranded vessel lying on her bilges—a helpless derelict on a coral reef.

Anxiously we watched the tropical storms raging around the horizon, fearful lest they should bear down and destroy our little vessel. Whilst waiting for the incoming tide, Mr. Done and I rowed over the shallow reef to a nearby sand pit, where turtle tracks had been observed. By prodding round with a spear we located the nest, and scooping away the sand so fast that the tide was not able to keep up, we unearthed 150 turtle eggs. It might have been a dump of golf balls. What a breakfast we made. Last time I was shipwrecked it was penguins, and now turtle eggs. But thank Heaven the weather was warm here.

A MARVELLOUS GARDEN OF THE SEA.

Rowing back to the "Herald," we passed over the most wonderful sight in the world—a submerged coral reef. The floor of the sea lay carpeted with a marvellous garden—so fantastic and unreal that one seemed to be peering through a glass sea into another world. Rounded knobs and knolls several feet in diameter, cauliflower heads, fungoid, and mushroom-shaped growths, a forest of sag anthers, of trees, shrubs, and a million forms, lay packed together in a wild, chaotic undergrowth.

No will but that of the Great Master Artist, who fashions all things, could conceive such a galaxy of extravagant colour. Here the spectrum had rioted. Primary colours flashed, mingled with flashings of faintest hue. Neither order nor rule controlled the colour scheme of the profound camouflage. It was as if a million seeds of strange plants had been thrown together, and had sprung into plants blossoming in utter confusion.

Drifting on a waveless sea, and peering through a pane—three fathoms of crystal water—the sublime spectacle lay glorified. From fairy grottoes shoals of tiny fish flashed out into the sunshine, but of such colour and markings that no man might describe. There were turquoise shoals and emerald and gleams of scarlet; others with scales that glinted gold and silver, some gaudily banded, streaked and designed mathematically. Each microscopically perfect, and all living gems. A dorsal fin skims the sea, the smallest fishes dart to cover—a white flash and a shark passes beneath.

The tide running in swiftly, we returned to the "Herald," now rising to an eve-keel from her coral couch. Two boys dived over the side to survey the extent of damage. All the false keel had been torn away, and a large expanse of copper ripped off. Soundings taken in the ship's well indicated only a small leak.

With the flood tide we managed to float the vessel off, and lost no time setting all sail for Darney. At evening we came up with the islands, and directed by bonfires hove-to and dropped anchor off the beach. The natives had arranged a great welcome, and as we pushed off in the dingy's numbers swam out to pilot us in. In the shallows a horde had gathered chanting a native welcome—a babel of

"SAFETY FIRST."

NOVEL PARIS MEASURE.

SENSATIONAL FILM PREPARED.

So many accidents have occurred in Paris recently that the authorities have been compelled to make some attempt to render walking in the principal thoroughfares less dangerous than at present. M. Raux, Prefect of Police, has considered that both drivers of vehicles of all sorts and foot passengers need to be educated to avoid mishaps, and the better to do this he has prepared what is said to be a sensational film which he imagines will convey a useful lesson. This film will figure in the programmes at the principal picture theatres, and so much interest has been taken in it that requests have been made from cinema houses abroad.

It is a simple story, but contains the necessary human interest, that the Prefect of Police has imagined. A wealthy manufacturer desires a husband for his daughter, who, naturally, is very pretty. He makes the announcement in his salon that he will give her hand to the suitor who takes her through Paris first in a motor-car and then on foot without meeting with an accident or infringing the traffic rules. Spoons decide to accept the test. There is, however, one exception. A young man thinks it strange that the girl should consent to marry the best chauffeur and the best walker. As the manufacturer replies to this objection a shadowy figure appears on the screen. He tells how his son returned from the war wounded, and with the Legion of Honour and other decorations. One day he was knocked down by a motor-car and killed. The emotion produced by this story is accentuated when he adds that his wife died of sorrow. Therefore, he goes on to say, he attaches great importance to traffic problems, and has decided to sacrifice his daughter on the altar of security for Parisians.

This explanation convinces the suitors, and all determine to try their luck. In the room there is a young man who is silent. He is a servant who has not had time to qualify for a driving licence. The heroine is evidently well disposed towards him, for she promises to initiate him into the mysteries of driving a motor-car. This part of the story is evidently too much for one commentator on the film, for he is led to remark: "And it is the Prefect of Police who has written that! The rest of the story is soon told." The young servant becomes a most skilful driver, and fulfils the test without an accident of any kind. And of course he marries the wealthy manufacturer's daughter.

"WET" LINER PUZZLE.

A U.S. RULING.

MAY AFFECT OUR SHIPS.

No vessel of any nationality may enter a United States port or come within the three-mile limit without intoxicating liquor on board.

This, in substance, is the decision given by the Department of Justice under the Prohibition Enforcement laws. The department states specifically that no ship transporting liquor from one foreign port to another may touch at a U.S. port. The Customs authorities express the opinion that if strictly construed it will prevent the entry of any passenger liner having a bar, even though its contents be sealed.

It is not stated from what quarter the application for this ruling came, but it will certainly be a source of considerable comfort to American shipping interests. The fact that all United States passenger ships are "dry" is always considered to be one of the principal handicaps of the U.S. Mercantile Marine in the fight for supremacy.

Considerable doubt at the same time exists in shipping circles whether the strictest construction will be placed on the new ruling.

Elsewhere it is quoted as an instance of the fact that the Prohibition laws cannot be enforced without giving rise to impossible complications abroad.

voices and cries, a hubbub of confusion of dusky figures, lit strangely by dancing firelight. A pleasant grinding, and we had touched the beach. Above the starlight danced through waving palms. We breathed an atmosphere sweet scented with tropical flowers—and this was my first impression of Darney.

DAIRY FARM NEWS.

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THE DAIRY FARM, ICE & COLD STORAGE Co., Ltd.

DISTRICT SCHOOLS.

ANNUAL ATHLETIC SPORTS.

FULL RESULTS.

Following is a full list of results of the Hongkong District Schools' Athletic Sports meeting, which was held on the Queen's College recreation ground, at Causeway Bay, yesterday:

100 Yards Flat Race (Group I).—1, Mok Tai-chung, Time: 17secs.; 2, Li Kai-yeung; 3, Kwan Sheung-chi. (Group II).—1, Li King-chong, Time: 16 1/10secs.; 2, Lau Ping-ki; 3, Cheung. (Group III).—1, Lau Sek-kau, Time: 16 1/10secs.; 2, Chan Hau-leung; 3, Ho Wing-fat. (Group IV).—1, Wu King-tak, Time: 17 1/10secs.; 2, Chi Ping-hing; 3, Wu Hing-kin. (Group V).—1, Tse Shu-ming, Time: 18secs.; 2, Mok Siu-fong; 3, Chan Shun-chung. (Group VI).—1, Li Hing-chun, Time: 19secs.; 2, Tan Sik-siu; 3, So Chun-fon.

High Jump (Group I).—1, Kwan Sheung-chi, Height: 5ft.; 2, Lau Chung-kai; 3, Mok Tai-chung. (Group II).—1, Wong Man-tung, Height: 4ft. 7in.; 2, Cheung Kit-sang; 3, Cheung Chong. (Group III).—1, Chan Siu-tong, Height: 4ft. 3in.; 2, Tsang Ki-chong; 3, Ho Yung-sing. (Group IV).—1, Wu King-tak, Height: 4ft. 3in.; 2, Chu Ping-hing; 3, Ko Wa-him. (Group V).—1, Lai Kam-chuen, Height: 4ft. 1in.; 2, Chan Shun-chung; 3, Tse Shu-ming. Long Jump (Group I).—1, Mok Tai-chung; 2, Yau Wing-kwai; 3, Chan Singi. (Group II).—1, Li Man-shing; 2, Chan Tak-kwan; 3, Cheung Kit-sang. (Group III).—1, Chung Kwok-ping; 2, Liu Chi-tai; 3, Chan Ki-sum. (Group IV).—1, Wu King-tak; 2, Cheung King-hoi; 3, Chu Ping-hin. (Group V).—1, Chan Shun-chung; 2, Tse Shu-ming; 3, Luk Chung-chan.

300 Yards Flat (Group I).—1, Mok Tai-chung; 2, Kwan Sheung-chi; 3, Kwok Wing-fat. (Group II).—1, Fong Man-ki; 2, Li Man-shing; 3, Ko Yau-sing. (Group III).—1, Lau Shut-kan; 2, Chung Kwok-ping; 3, Kong Ki-in.

200 Yards Flat (Group IV).—1, Wu King-tak; 2, Ko Wo-him; 3, Cheung Lai-chuen. (Group V).—1, Tse Shu-ming; 2, Chan Shun-chung; 3, Ma Ming-ngai. (Group VI).—1, Li Hing-chun; 2, Ho Yek-kin; 3, Chan U-shing.

120 Yards Hurdles (Group I).—1, Mok Tai-chung; 2, Lo Cheung-kwong; 3, Pang Wai-mun. (Group II).—1, Cheung Cheong; 2, Lau Ping-ki; 3, Tsoi Pak-shu. (Group III).—1, Chung Kwok-ping; 2, Ho Wing-fat; 3, Lau Shut-kan.

300 Yards Flat (for Indian boys only).—1, D. Mohamed; 3, N. B. Kitchell; 3, M. Hassan.

Tug-of-War.—1, Saiyungpun School; 2, Ellis Kadoorie School.

Team Race (Senior).—1, Wanchai School; 2, Saiyungpun School; 3, Ellis Kadoorie School.

Team Race (Junior).—1, Wanchai School; 2, Ellis Kadoorie School; 3, Saiyungpun School.

Sir Ellis Kadoorie Challenge Shield.—Won by Saiyungpun School. Runners-up, Wanchai School.

Championship Gold Medal.—Won by Mok Tai-chung (Ellis Kadoorie School) with 10 points out of a possible 15.

At the conclusion Mrs. E. A. Irving, wife of the Hon. Director of Education, distributed the prizes, and was presented with a beautiful bouquet of flowers in a silver vase as a memento of the occasion.

BRITAIN JUSTIFIED.

OUTSPOKEN STATEMENT.

U.S. GENERAL'S REBUTT TO CRITICS.

"I'm no more ashamed to stand up here for Britain than I am to do so for the United States. I thank God that in a crisis like the one we had, there was no bickering between the English-speaking people. Of course, General Pershing gave them five divisions, but it saved the Allied line."

These words were spoken before the Congressional Committee investigating the American war expenditure by General Charles Daves, the Chicago banker, who during the war was in charge of the Supply Services of the American Army in Europe. He made this protest after a number of questions had been put to him relative to the alleged refusal of the British Government to supply ships unless the United States put five divisions in the line.

Anti-British elements persisting in this questioning, General Daves, who is noted for his vigorous, downright utterance, replied with considerable heat that Great Britain did the right thing to win the war.

General Pershing said that General Daves was always willing to do anything for the common good, and instanced the question of unified command. "Great Britain came to it," he said, "after four years of jealousy, but not till threatened with extinction did she do what she should have done in the first year of the war."

The morning after the final agreement was reached, he concluded, "to appoint Marshal Foch, Colonel Repington published it in the London Morning Post. They let him off with a fine, but he ought to have been shot."

"PRINCESS OF THE WILDS."

SERVANT GIRL'S HOAX.

THREE MONTHS' DECEPTION.

Found crying in a Munich street dressed in Oriental clothing and apparently unable to speak any intelligible language, a girl was for three months the subject of much study and discussion among Munich savants. They decided that her language was that of some mysterious tribe in Central Asia, that she was the daughter of the "Chief," and therefore a "Princess"; that she had probably been smuggled to Bavaria from Constantinople by Allied officers and deserted.

A home was found for her, but she could not be induced to learn any language. A few days ago she disappeared, and romantic accounts were told about her having been kidnapped by hooded Asiatics, emissaries from her "royal father." The police traced her to the house of a friend of her mistress. This man had induced her to live with him after discovering that she spoke German as well as he did. She was, it appears, formerly a servant girl in the neighbouring village.

A Chinese arrested on Praya East yesterday charged this morning before Magistrate Orme, with the unlawful possession of 722 rounds of ammunition, pleaded ignorance of local regulations. Inspector Kent, of No. 2 Police Station, said that the accused threw two packets of ammunition into the harbour before he was arrested. The Magistrate imposed a fine of \$200, or in default, four months' hard labour. The ammunition was confiscated.

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LOCAL AND GENERAL.

A small gunboat has been sent to investigate the mysterious disappearance of the rice boat, which sailed on board a guard, which failed to arrive at Si-wui from Canton.

One fatal case of small pox and another of cerebro spinal fever, both Chinese, were reported yesterday, also a non-fatal case of diphtheria, British, and another of cerebro spinal fever, Chinese.

We may have a murderer among us. The Tacoma police have asked the Kobe police to look out for a man from their port who killed his wife on December 1 last. No details are given as to why he did it, says a Japan paper.

News from Sun Tak district reveals the fact that public education in that district is in a pitiable state with the result that no progress has been made while school buildings are now in a dilapidated condition, and the attendance in the different schools is decreasing at an alarming rate.

An "Extraordinary Lodge of Emergency of Zealand Lodge, No. 525, E.C., will be held on Monday, March 21, at 8.30 p.m. for 9 p.m. precisely, in celebration of the 75th anniversary of Freemasonry in Hong Kong and South China. All Brethren, resident and/or visiting are invited to attend.

A successful whist drive was held at the Catholic Men's Club on Thursday evening. There was a good attendance. The following were the prize-winners: Ladies: 1. Mrs. Alderman (180); 2. Mrs. Reynolds (170); 3. Mrs. Cheesley (168); 4. Mrs. Hill (141). Gentlemen: 1. Mr. Holdman (190); 2. Mr. Biggs (176); 3. Mr. Hughes (175); 4. Mr. Calvin; 5. Mr. Pinches acted as M.C. and the prizes were presented by Mr. R.W. Brown.

A case is reported in Manila where a convict serving a life sentence killed a fellow-prisoner, and could not be punished for it, as he was already suffering the maximum punishment. In Italy, where there is no death penalty, they are more resourceful than this, and have worse punishments than penal servitude for life. The other day a case was mentioned where a man was given the maximum of twenty-four years of solitary confinement. It is a grim humanitarianism which abolishes death and replaces it with hell.

Following an outrage committed by soldiers in Shikuan upon a railway worker who died after having been mercilessly beaten, the railway workers of this section in Shikuan have addressed a telegram to the Government and local authorities announcing a strike as a protest against the Canton Times. News of the strike in Shikuan has stirred the works on the line in Canton as a means of expressing their sympathy with their fellow workers, with the result that a train service was interrupted for a time. It is said that a satisfactory arrangement has been reached with the workers.

However bitter they are against each other, Warlord Tsoo Kan of Chihli and Warlord Chang Tso-lin of Fengtien are observing Chinese official etiquette toward each other, in the most ceremonial way, when the Peking Government orders them to disband a portion of their troops. Alarmed at the large number of troops that each of these two Warlords have, the Peking Government decided to decrease the number of troops in the country by first beginning with the provinces that are under the control of Chang Tso-lin and Tsoo Kan. Upon receipt of the order from Peking, Warlord Tsoo Kan immediately replied that he would not disband his troops until his rival Warlord Chang Tso-lin of Fengtien takes the initiative. Warlord Chang Tso-lin of Fengtien, however, adopts the same attitude and refuses to disband his troops unless Tsoo Kan begins disbanding. Each is waiting for the other to begin and in the meantime, the Peking Government is at its wits end as to how to induce these two warlords to decrease the number of their respective armies.

UNKNOWN SOUTH AFRICA.

RIVER MONSTER.

MYSTERY ANIMAL WITH A 10-FT. NECK.

A vivid story of an encounter in a lonely part of the Orange River, South Africa, with a huge creature, the neck of which was arched ten feet above the water of the river as it swam the rapids, was given to a reporter by Mr. F. C. Cornell, a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, who has returned to England for the first time in 20 years after travelling in practically unknown parts of South Africa.

"I had heard from the natives, during 5 or 6 very long trips below the Great Falls, of a monster with a gigantic body which it kept under water," Mr. Cornell said. "They lived in great fear of this thing with a long neck like a bending tree and a huge head, and which seized their cattle from the banks as it swam. They have believed in this thing for hundreds of years. They call it 'kyman,' or the Great Thing."

"Its chief abiding place, they said, was in the Kymen River, a huge clefted rock in mid-stream close to where the Oub or Great Fish River joins the Orange River. In May I visited the rock. I had with me two white companions, W. H. Brown and N. B. Way, of Capetown, and three Hottentots."

"After attempts to throw dynamite charges towards the rock we lay contentedly smoking under some trees near the river. The heat had made me sleepy, and I was awakened from a doze by the cries of the natives. They were running along the banks towards us, shouting 'Kyman, Kyman!' They were positively gibbering with fear."

"Swimming rapidly against the current in the swirling rapids, I caught sight of something huge, black, and sinuous. The object may have been a very gigantic python, but if it was it was of an incredible size."

"It is quite conceivable that this thing has lived hundreds of years. I know from experience that big pythons have lived for hundreds of years."

Some funny things happen in the Customs Offices of all countries, but the funniest is perhaps that rephrased in a London paper of an Englishman who lives in a European country where the officials are not noted for their honesty. He received a Christmas card from a relative in England and a bulky package, which bore on the outside as the requisite declaration for the Customs the legend, "One St. Leon cheese, two plum puddings."

On opening it, however, he found it contained nothing but rubbish. He thereupon brought an action for theft against the Customs officials. His action failed. Not so the counter-charge advanced by the authorities, and he had the pleasure of paying a fine, the equivalent of £50, for complicity in a false Customs declaration—in short, for smuggling into the country one large stone and a bundle of rags!

Who would have thought that the innocent looking hair pin that adorns the hair of a Chinese girl could be so important a weapon to the wearer as to put a company of troops to flight? asks the Canton Times. Anyway the value of the pin was not known until a young lady walking along Wai Oi Street with a girl companion on Wednesday afternoon made use of it to defend herself against a gang of well-dressed men who followed her and her companion and made insulting remarks. The young lady in a twinkling of an eye removed her hair pin, turned around and with the precise aim of an experienced marksman, drove the pin into the arms of two of the young fellows. She was going to throw her third victim, but her companion held her back and the police arrived at the scene. The young men thereupon fled amid the jeers of the crowd.

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(via Kobe and Yokohama)
"TYNDAROS" 6th Apr. Victoria, Seattle and Vancouver
"PROTEUS" 14th May
"TEUCER" 25th May

NEW YORK SERVICE

(via Santos or Panama)
"LAERTES" 27th Mar. via Suez
"HOMEWARD" 13th April for Liverpool
"PYRRHUS" 3rd May for London
"ATREUS" 21st June for London
"THESEUS" 7th July for Liverpool
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POST OFFICE NOTICES.

Telegraphic Communication with Gap Rock Lighthouse is interrupted.

INWARD MAILS.

FROM	FRIDAY, MARCH 18.	PAR
Shanghai	Letters and Newspapers London, Sinkiang, Europe via Suez (Letters and Newspapers London, Inaba Maru 17th Feb.)	
SATURDAY, MARCH 19.		
Straits and Calcutta	Letters and Newspapers London, Sinkiang, Europe via Suez (Letters and Newspapers London, Inaba Maru 17th Feb.)	Heijo Maru
Japan and Shanghai	Letters and Newspapers London, Sinkiang, Europe via Suez (Letters and Newspapers London, Inaba Maru 17th Feb.)	Tonyo Maru
SUNDAY, MARCH 20.		
U.S.A., Japan and Shanghai	Letters and Newspapers London, Sinkiang, Europe via Suez (Letters and Newspapers London, Inaba Maru 17th Feb.)	Nanking
MONDAY, MARCH 21.		
Shanghai	Letters and Newspapers London, Sinkiang, Europe via Suez (Letters and Newspapers London, Inaba Maru 17th Feb.)	Sanning
Shanghai	Letters and Newspapers London, Sinkiang, Europe via Suez (Letters and Newspapers London, Inaba Maru 17th Feb.)	Tan
TUESDAY, MARCH 22.		
Straits	Letters and Newspapers London, Sinkiang, Europe via Suez (Letters and Newspapers London, Inaba Maru 17th Feb.)	Nagata Maru
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23.		
Straits	Letters and Newspapers London, Sinkiang, Europe via Suez (Letters and Newspapers London, Inaba Maru 17th Feb.)	Torilla